

Project Will Add Over 200 NM Jobs with Recovery Act Funding

Las Cruces, NM - On Friday, Harry Teague continued his "Make It in America" tour with a visit to the Red Mesa Wind Farm being constructed in Cibola County. Teague joined Cibola County commissioners and representatives from NextEra Energy Resources for a briefing and update on the project's development.

The tour and discussion focused on the growth of the project, which is receiving a \$60 million Investment Tax Credit through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. The new funding allows for the construction of 48 GE wind turbines, manufactured and made in America, with over 200 employees currently working on the project.

"In order to create jobs that cannot be shipped overseas, boost American manufacturers, and grow our local economy, we must pursue a Do it All, Do It in New Mexico energy plan that takes advantage of New Mexico's unique resources and increases our energy independence. The Red Mesa Wind Farm does just that - taking the region's abundance of wind power and turning it in to jobs in the manufacturing, construction and energy industries," said Harry Teague. "This Recovery Act funding will help put hundreds of New Mexicans back to work in a growing industry and boost manufacturers working to Make It in America. I was excited to see the progress of the project and look forward to its continued expansion."

The wind farm is also contributing to Cibola's local economy, education and economic development. With the new energy initiative, the land, which previously generated \$900 per year for the county, will generate \$645,000 in taxes each year. This additional money will enable the county to provide fiber optic internet to schools in Cibola County and the Pueblo of Laguna. Local businesses will also be able to take advantage of the fiber optic network, helping businesses compete at a higher level and creating a platform for future economic development.

The Red Mesa Wind Farm began construction in May and is expected to be completed by 2011.



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Harry Teague Tours the Red Mesa Wind Farm project in Cibola County on his “Make It in America” Tour

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